

GIDGEGANNUP PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

Next Meeting: 18th October, 15th November, 2004 at 7.30 pm. At the Agricultural Society Hall, Gidgegannup. (Memberships due)

Separate Representation: Well we did warn you the Local Government Advisory Board have written back to the City advising that "the proposal from the City to increase the number of councillors in the Ellenbrook Ward did not correctly take into account the prescribed matters" --- "The Board also resolved to notify the City that a proposal that does correctly take into account the prescribed matters is to be submitted to the Board" --- The Board does not expect the City to undertake a further review at this time, but is directing the City to reconsider its position and submit another proposal to the Board that correctly takes into account the prescribed matters"

The City have taken it upon themselves to undertake another review and come up with a proposal that Ellenbrook increases to two councillors, the Swan Valley and Gidgegannup Wards are amalgamated and have two councillors between them and everybody else stays the same.

Now how the City made that out of what the LGAB requested them to do we can't make out – but the City will be putting this proposal to Council to vote upon at their meeting on Wednesday, 3rd November. This realistically means that Gidge loses its separate representation. The GPA will fight this most strenuously once again and we need your support at the Midland Town Hall on **3rd November, at 5.15 pm**. There is no doubt that Gidgegannup is being railroaded, we have few services, or facilities and they now want to take our Councillor away – the question is Why do we pay rates? If you wish to let the City know your point of view, ring, write or email the Mayor, or the CEO, Eric Lumsden

Waterways and Dams Policy: This comes before Council on 13th October for endorsement and then out to public comment. Links to the policy will be put on the Community Website.

Place Planning: The City received over 100 submissions and hope to have a document before Council, at their meeting on 3rd November. This document will then go to the WAPC for approval and, when approved, be incorporated into the Town Plan.

ADSL/Mobile Phones: We hope to have a meeting with Telstra by the end of October to hear more news about ADSL enablement. In another couple of months the amendment to the Town Planning scheme will be completed and we will be able to proceed with planning mobile phone tower sites.

Western Power: We are informed that Gidgegannup has had one transformer upgraded at Falls Heights and major projects within the next year in this area of possible benefit to

us – the Placing of new regulators on long feeder lines to ensure that voltages are kept within acceptable standards. Not a lot for us.

Independent Panel on Developments: This is to operate for a six month trial period from January next year. Its introduction will relieve Council of pressure when dealing with controversial development applications. It will provide a formal system to enable all stakeholders to discuss issues of concern with particular development applications.

Partnership Agreement between City and State Government: A working group is being formed co-chaired by Jaye Radisich and the Mayor to bring together City and State Government Agencies to focus on developing and implementing sustainable community outcomes. This will cover a wide range of local and state government responsibilities and promote stronger co-operation, improved planning processes and a focus on sustainable facilities and services for the community.

Pioneer/Hanson Quarry: The licence for this quarry is up for renewal. The GPA has put in a submission asking for compliance to environmental conditions and planning approvals set upon it. We have also questioned the large dump by the side of Toodyay Road and the dust being dragged on to the Toodyay Road by trucks exiting the quarry.

Reserve Road Quarry: Reserve Road should be resurfaced in the next month – we have also been notified that crushing will recommence on this site in the next couple of weeks. We have circulated the licence to surrounding landowners asking for comment and have passed those queries to the Department of the Environment.

Naming of Reserves: The GPA have been contacted by the City and Environmental Groups regarding the naming of local Reserves. There are several in Gidgegannup the Hargreaves/Lillie Road Reserve, Noble Falls Picnic Area, Reserve 2145 adjacent to the Percy Cullen Recreation Reserve, Lot 35 Berry/Reserve Road, Reserves 26864 and 26565 O'Brien Road.

It is thought desirable to name Reserves as this gives them an identity and suggestions are welcome. If naming after a person that person has to be deceased and have contributed to our community. Anyone with knowledge of their history would be of great assistance. It has been suggested that Lot 2145 could just be called Gidgegannup/Gidge Reserve. The GPA have proposed to the City that Lot 35 Reserve/Berry Road be named the *Jean Wild Nature Reserve* and an article follows on the reasons for this.

Post Office: We are still trying to assist in the upgrading of the LPA, but Australia Post are not being helpful.

Website Address on Entrance Signs: A suggestion has been forwarded to the City that Gidgegannup's website address should be put on the entrance statements to the townsite.

Landscape Guidelines: Landscape Guidelines have been developed by the City of Swan to provide a set of criteria and standards for design of streetscapes and public open space.. The Guidelines are available from the City's website or from their offices – information Fiona Smith on 9267 9183. – Public Comment period open to 4th November. Queries to Mark Denning on 9267 9206 or email denning@swan.wa.gov.au

Proposed Consolidated Local Laws: These are up for comment once more – copies obtainable from the City's offices – Submissions to be made to the CEO by 2nd December 2004.

Annual Meeting of Electors The City's Annual Meeting of Electors will be held on Tuesday, 2nd November at the Midland Town Hall from 5.30 pm. The Annual Report can be accessed on www.cityofswan.com from 19th October or can be inspected at the Administration Centre and all City libraries

Visit from Judi Moylan: A small group met with our Federal Member on her visit to Gidgegannup recently – issues discussed: Pensions for asset rich but income poor residents. Problems associated with Customisation of vehicles, Postal Services for Gidgegannup (there could be some Federal assistance), Roads, Water policies. We crammed a lot of discussion into an hour.

Jean Wild Nature Reserve In Honour of a Pioneering Family

Jean and her husband, Warwick (Senior) purchased their land in that part of Gidgegannup, which was first opened up for development in the mid 1950's. The land to be subdivided was referred to as the "Woodsome Estate" and was owned by the Copley family.

Previous to this, the area, which lies to the north and north west of the older, established part of Gidgegannup and towards the Avon Valley, was predominantly pristine forest woodland, except for isolated selective logging and was dominated by jarrah, marri and tracts of wandoo. Wildflowers were prolific, with an amazing variety of species, ranging from delicate orchids and granite outcrop plants to magnificent wattles and flowering shrubs, which grew almost to the edge of the gravel roads. There were no bitumen roads in the early days, nor was there telephone, power or water available to the residents who first settled in the area.

As well as the flora, fauna too, was in abundance and the two combined to form a wonderful array of various eco-systems; all depending upon each other to create a truly wonderful biodiversity of forest bushland.

It was into this environment that Jean Wild settled. Already a lover of nature and a conservationist before her time, she was influential in limiting the clearing of their proposed farmland, which was predominantly parkland, with areas of bush left uncleared

and fenced off as bushland sanctuaries. She was always hopeful that the bushland reserve at the corner of Reserve and Berry Roads, adjacent to Jean and Warwick's property, "Wildwood", would remain uncleared, pristine bush for the benefit of nature and for future generations to enjoy.

Jean was an active member of the CWA for many years. She was also an active supporter of the Community Church and a regular parishioner involved in the early planning stages of the Church. Jean was a member of the Gidgegannup Agricultural Society, and assisted in the Horticultural Division and in providing food and refreshments for Show visitors. In honour of her many years' work in this capacity, her family instigated and provide the Jean Wild Memorial Trophy, which is awarded to the best exhibit of roses at the annual Gidgegannup Show. A well-liked and respect member of the community, Jean often visited neighbours to promote social contact and to offer support in some way, if she thought it was needed. This was particularly the case for the elderly and those newly arrived to the area.

Jean's husband, Warwick, was an active member of the West Gidgegannup Volunteer Fire Brigade and Fire Control Officer for the area over a number of years. He was also an Honorary CALM Wildlife Warden and an esteemed member of the community. Jean and Warwick's marriage of 42 years was characterised by them working together as partners in all they did. This was true in their commitment to contributing to the Gidgegannup area and both were highly respected members of the community. The naming of the Reserve adjacent to their former property as the *Jean Wild Nature Reserve* would be a fitting and highly appropriate testimony to the contribution made by Jean and Warwick to the local environment and Jean's selfless commitment to Gidgegannup.

The Wilds gave the Reserve to the City in 1956

We are sure there are many more wonderful stories of Gidgegannup's past and perhaps some could be contributed to the Gidgegram so we can learn more about our history.